

# Nominia

***Nomingia*** is a genus of oviraptorid theropod dinosaur hailing from the Late Cretaceous Bugin Tsav Beds of Mongolia.

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## Discovery and naming



### Restoration with hypothetical head, arms, and feet



Vertebrae and tail of the  
holotype specimen

The remains, consisting of most of the vertebral column, pelvic girdle and left tibio-tarsus, holotype GIN 100/119, were found in 1994 in layers of the Nemegt Svita, dating to the Maastrichtian. They were named and described as the type species *Nomingia gobiensis* by Barsbold, Halszka Osmólska, Mahito Watabe,

Philip Currie and Khishigjaw Tsogtbaatar in 2000. The etymology of the binomial refers to the location where the fossils were found, with the generic name mentioning the Nomingiin Gobi, a nearby part of the Gobi Desert, which is itself mentioned in the specific descriptor.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Description

*Nomingia* is a medium-sized oviraptorosaur, estimated by Gregory S. Paul to have been 1.7 metres (5.6 ft) long and 20 kilograms (44 lb) in weight.<sup>[2]</sup> It is characterized by a pygostyle-like mass of five fused vertebrae at the tail end,

## Nominia

**Temporal range:** Late Cretaceous,  
70 Ma

Pre€ € OS D C P T J K PaN



Diagram showing known elements

### Scientific classification

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Chordata

*Clade:* Dinosauria

*Clade:* Saurischia

*Clade:* Theropoda

Family: †Oviraptoridae

Genus: †*Nomingia*  
Barsbold et al. 2000

## Species

- *N. gobiensis* Barsbold et al., 2000 (type)

which Barsbold *et al.* inferred probably supported a feather fan as in *Caudipteryx*.<sup>[1]</sup> A similar bone structure had only been found in birds before this fossil was discovered.

As other oviraptorids such as *Chirostenotes*, *N. gobiensis* would have been a medium-sized theropod sporting beaked jaws and, probably, a crest used for display.

## Phylogeny

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Barsbold *et al.* only formally assigned *Nomingia* to a more general Oviraptorosauria, though they considered that it was likely a member of the Caenagnathidae (=Elmisaurinae).<sup>[1]</sup> Subsequent cladistic analyses have been contradictory regarding to which precise subgroup it belonged.

## See also

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- Timeline of oviraptorosaur research

## References

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1. Barsbold, R.; Osmólska, H.; Watabe, M.; Currie, P.J.; Tsogtbaatar, K. (2000). "New Oviraptorosaur (Dinosauria, Theropoda) From Mongolia: The First Dinosaur With A Pygostyle". *Acta Palaeontologica Polonica*. **45** (2): 97–106.
2. Paul, G.S., 2010, *The Princeton Field Guide to Dinosaurs*, Princeton University Press p. 152

## External links

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- Scott Hartman's *Nomingia* reconstruction. (<http://www.skeletaldrawing.com/psgallery/pages/nomingia.html>)
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